

IN THE CLAIMS:

Please amend the claims as follows:

Claims 1-15 (Cancel without prejudice or disclaimer).

Claim 16 (Withdrawn): An image forming device comprising:

a sheet feeding device that feeds a plurality of sheets,

an imaging engine that forms an image on a sheet fed by the sheet feeding device,

a sheet discharge unit that discharges the sheet having an image formed thereon by the imaging engine, and

a sheet stacking section for stacking the plurality of sheets discharged from the sheet discharge unit,

wherein the sheet discharge unit is exchangeable according to a number of sheets stacked on the sheet stacking section.

Claim 17 (Withdrawn): The image forming device according to Claim 16, further comprising a unit receiving section provided with an engaging section for engaging with the sheet discharge unit,

wherein the sheet discharge unit is detachable by releasing engagement of the engaging section.

Claim 18 (Withdrawn): The image forming device according to Claim 17, further comprising a sheet transport path that extends from the sheet discharge device via the vicinity of the imaging engine to communicate with the unit receiving section,

wherein the sheet discharge unit has a normal discharge path for discharging a transported sheet and the normal discharge path and the sheet transport path are arranged to communicate with each other.

Claim 19 (Withdrawn): The image forming device according to Claim 18, further comprising a reverse transport unit attachable to a body of the image forming device and having a reverse transport path for reversing a sheet, wherein the sheet discharge unit has a reverse discharge path for reversing the sheet transported through the sheet transport path and the reverse discharge path and the reverse transport path are arranged to communicate with each other.

Claim 20 (Withdrawn): The image forming device according to Claim 17, wherein the sheet discharge unit has an increased height from an upper surface of the sheet stacking section to a position where the sheet is discharged from the sheet discharge unit with the sheet discharge unit attached to the unit receiving section, when a number of sheets stacked on the stacking section is large.

Claim 21 (Withdrawn): A managing method of an image forming device comprising:
a sheet discharge unit for discharging a sheet fed from a sheet feeding device, and
a sheet stacking section for stacking a plurality of sheets discharged from the sheet discharge unit, wherein the sheet discharge unit has an increased height from an upper surface of the sheet stacking section to a position where the sheet is discharged from the sheet discharge unit when a number of sheets stacked on the stacking section is large.

Claim 22 (New): A plurality of sheet discharge units, one of which is configured to be mounted on a sheet processing apparatus, one of the sheet discharge units comprising:

- a sheet discharge unit body;
- a sheet transport path including a normal transport path and a reverse transport path;
- a sheet entering port, located adjacent a periphery of the sheet discharge unit body, from which a sheet output from the sheet processing apparatus enters the normal transport path;
- a first sheet discharge port positioned at the end of the normal transport path; and
- a second sheet discharge port positioned at the end of the reverse transport path;

wherein the sheet entering port of each of the sheet discharge units is arranged at a same position on each of the plurality of sheet discharge unit bodies, and the second sheet discharge port of each of the sheet discharge units is arranged at a same position on each of the plurality of sheet discharge units,

wherein the sheet entering ports of the respective sheet discharge units are arranged at different positions with respect to the second sheet discharge ports.

Claim 23 (New): The plurality of sheet discharge units configured to be mounted on a sheet processing apparatus according to claim 22, wherein the first sheet discharge port of each of the respective sheet discharge units are arranged at a different position on each of the sheet discharge units.

Claim 24 (New): The plurality of sheet discharge units configured to be mounted on a sheet processing apparatus according to claim 22, wherein each of the sheet discharge units is removable from the sheet processing apparatus.

Claim 25 (New): The plurality of sheet discharge units configured to be mounted on a sheet processing apparatus according to claim 22, wherein each of the sheet discharge units is provided with a discharge member disposed proximate to an upper surface of a sheet stacking section provided at an upper section of the sheet processing apparatus.

Claim 26 (New): The plurality of sheet discharge units configured to be mounted on a sheet processing apparatus according to claim 22, wherein a discharge capacity is adjusted according to a sheet transporting speed of the sheet processing apparatus for the plurality of sheet discharge units.

Claim 27 (New): The plurality of sheet discharge units configured to be mounted on a sheet processing apparatus according to claim 22, wherein a discharge capacity is adjusted according to a sheet feeding amount of the sheet processing apparatus for the plurality of sheet discharge units.

Claim 28 (New): The plurality of sheet discharge units configured to be mounted on a sheet processing apparatus according to claim 22, wherein a discharge capacity is adjusted

according to a sheet processing amount of the sheet processing apparatus for the plurality of sheet discharge units.

Claim 29 (New): The plurality of sheet discharge units configured to be mounted on a sheet processing apparatus according to claim 22, wherein a discharge member is mounted in the vicinity of the first sheet discharge port of the normal transport path, and at least upper and lower surfaces of the reverse transport path are formed not to block a linear reference surface connecting a nipping section of the discharge member and a lower edge of the second sheet discharge port of the reverse transport path.

Claim 30 (New): The plurality of sheet discharge units configured to be mounted on a sheet processing apparatus according to claim 22, wherein an upper surface of the reverse transport path is upwardly withdrawn from extending into an upper surface of the normal transport path.

Claim 31 (New): The plurality of sheet discharge units configured to be mounted on a sheet processing apparatus according to claim 22, wherein lower surfaces of the normal transport path and the reverse transport path are formed into an approximately V-shape for widening a space in the vicinity of a crossing section of the normal transport path and the reverse transport path.

Claim 32 (New) The plurality of sheet discharge units configured to be mounted on a sheet processing apparatus according to claim 22, wherein the plurality of sheet discharge units is capable of interfacing with a common external unit.

Claim 33 (New): A sheet processing device comprising:
a plurality of sheet discharge units, one of which is incorporated as part of a processing device body, and discharges a sheet processed at a processing section in the processing device body toward a sheet stacking section disposed at an upper section of the processing device body;
each of the sheet discharge units comprising:
a sheet discharge unit body;
a sheet transport path including a normal transport path and a reverse transport path;
a sheet entering port, located adjacent a periphery of the sheet discharge unit body, from which a sheet output from the processing device body enters the normal transport path;
a first sheet discharge port positioned at the end of the normal transport path; and
a second sheet discharge port positioned at the end of the reverse transport path;
wherein the sheet entering port of each of the sheet discharge units is arranged at a same position on each of the plurality of sheet discharge unit bodies, and the second sheet discharge port of each of the sheet discharge units is arranged at a same position on each of the plurality of sheet discharge units,
wherein the sheet entering ports of the respective sheet discharge units are arranged at different positions with respect to the second sheet discharge ports.

Claim 34 (New): The sheet processing device according to claim 33, wherein each sheet discharge unit has the normal discharge path communicating with the sheet stacking section and the reverse transport path extending in a direction substantially opposite to the normal discharge path.

Claim 35 (New): The sheet processing device according to claim 33, wherein an external unit is added to the second sheet discharge port of the reverse transport path.

Claim 36 (New): The sheet processing device according to claim 35, wherein the external unit is a duplex unit.

Claim 37 (New): The sheet processing device according to claim 36, wherein the external unit is a post-processing unit.